

WASTE 2 RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** MEETING SUMMARY **

May 29th, 2018

Troy Lautenbach, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and introductions were made. He asked for a motion to approve the March 15th, 2018 meeting notes. There was a motion to adopt them. The motion was seconded and the notes were approved.

Budget/Legislative Update - Laurie Davies, Contact: 360-407-6103; laurie.davies@ecy.wa.gov

Budget –

We are wrapping up the first fiscal year. The capital budget passed in January, giving us \$10 million for LSWFA grants. About 90% of the grants have been signed and are out. An additional \$1 million came in the supplemental budget for WRLLCA. We portioned the money out with 50% added to the EYC, 30% going to waste reduction with a focus on China National Sword issues, and 20% to the community litter cleanup programs under the competitive waste reduction and recycling education grants.

Ecology is in the process of developing the 2019-2021 biennial budget request. We are currently going through the internal budget process. We are requesting \$28.2 million out of MTCA for LSWFA grants. This is the agency's number one priority for MTCA funding.

We are asking for \$24 million from WRRLCA. We will get back \$5.5 million then ask for the fund balance of about \$6 million.

We are requesting approximately \$1 million of the fund balance in the Biosolids account. This will help us with the back log of permit applications; especially for Septage Land Application permits.

Finally, we will be asking for the usual \$1 million for the tire clean up and will be looking at partnering with tribes on tire pile cleanups on reservation lands.

Legislative-

There has been a huge interest in the recycling issues associated with the China National Sword restrictions on contamination in recyclables and a drop in prices for recyclable materials. Senator's Carlyle and Rolfes have reached out to Ecology for potential legislation ideas to address contamination in the recycling waste stream and help with market development. Both have requested a meeting with Ecology.

We are expecting HB 2914, Representative Smith's bill regarding recycling and Representative Doglio's bill on food waste to come back in some form in the 2019 Legislative Session. This could make for a busy 2019 session.

***350 Solid Waste Handling Rule & Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance Grants Updates-
Laurie Davies, Contact: 360-407-6103; laurie.davies@ecy.wa.gov***

350 update –

We have completed the public review of the formal draft of the rule, however we received a significant amount of comments and are just now wrapping up the response to comments. We have four parts of the rule that received the most significant comments - impacted soils, piles, determination of solid waste, and high pH waste.

Currently, staff are recommending just making clarifying edits to the formal review draft and will be making a recommendation to Polly and Maia to proceed with adoption. The current schedule for adoption is the first week in August.

LSWFA –

We have decided to reinstate the LSWFA work group and will utilize them for on-going advice when amending the guidelines, making funding allocation decisions, etc. During the grant rule update, we had a work group that advised Ecology on the rule, guidelines, etc. This was extremely helpful and allowed for a streamlined line process. The first meeting of the workgroup is today.

The decision package for the \$28.2 million is drafted. We want to include data to show OFM what's been happening over the last four (4) years since the cut backs have taken place. We would like to know the following, at minimum –

- How many health departments/counties stopped running programs?
- How many people got laid off?
- How many initiatives got put off?
- What was the impact to the community when the programs stopped?

Grant officers will be reaching out to counties and cities for this information or you can send this information to Laurie Davies at the email above.

***Solid Waste Conference Update – Julie Robertson, Contact: 360-407-6132;
julie.robertson@ecy.wa.gov***

We had to cancel the last Solid Waste Conference last fall when the capital budget didn't pass. This year it passed, so we are moving forward with the conference. The conference will include training on the new 350 rule update, recycling issues and information about our LSWFA grants. A save the date notice will come out shortly followed by a registration website. If you want additional information, contact Julie Robertson.

State Plan Update – Janine Bogar, Contact: 360-407-6654; janine.bogar@ecy.wa.gov

The goal is to update the state plan every five (5) years; we've been on track for the past 10 years. We are starting the process now and are looking at the progress in our mid-course update. Some of the work we've been focused on has included:

- 350 rule update.
- Food waste reduction.
- Apple maggots.
- Continued research on biochar.
- Recycling standards/guidelines.

The first *Beyond Waste Plan* was published in 2004, with a minor update in 2009. Updates were done by sending out two rounds of drafts to stakeholders, with the second being the final edit. In 2015, we took a different approach and sent it out to the public, stakeholders, and regulated community. This allowed us to update the plan completely differently. The areas we are currently looking at updating:

- Improve our actions
- Clarifying Ecology's work
- Keeping the goals and vision for the stakeholders
- Adding in key interests of the day

Heather asked Janine if a section could be added that talks about how the community and stakeholders can help to achieve those goals. Janine liked the idea and will look into adding this to the plan.

China's National Sword Update and Group Discussion – Julie Roberson, Contact: 360-407-6132; julie.robertson@ecy.wa.gov; Janine Bogar, Contact: 360-407-6654; janine.bogar@ecy.wa.gov; and Alli Kingfisher, Contact: 509-329-3448, alli.kingfisher@ecy.wa.gov

This section of the agenda was a panel discuss on what people are hearing and doing around the China National Sword Issue.

Janine Bogar, Ecology– we are conducting stakeholder calls to gather information on impacts to the recycling system in Washington and to see if we can develop consistent messaging regarding what is being recycled and how to reduce contamination. Alli Kingfisher is maintaining a listserv and is the person sending out information regarding the call. If you want to be included on the listserv, contact Alli. Ecology is also coordinating with Oregon and listening to their stakeholder calls. This allows us to see what other west coast states are experiencing. Ecology has allocated the entire 30% we received in the supplemental budget to working on the China National Sword issue. (\$200K to education/outreach, \$100K to research). We are in the process of forming a stakeholder steering committee to work on these issues, and to develop messages. We will be hiring a facilitator to help run the group.

In addition, we are looking at funding a market development study. We have talked with Oregon and will look at partnering with them to help stretch the dollars. We will be looking at the current problems, collection systems, commingled paper/plastic and recycling laws.

Lisa Sepanski, King County – King County set up a special task force called the Responsible Recycling Task Force. The group consists of about twenty people, meeting every month through October. They are focusing on key issues the recycling industry is facing such as the impact of China Blue Sky. Other key areas include:

- Consistent messaging
- Prioritizing recycling markets
- Creating domestic demand for recycled feedstock
- Real recycling v. Diversion.
- Removing problematic materials from the stream

King County will have a final report available in November. WSAC is looking at the messaging as well and looking at the impacts of surcharges and the variances to manage the recycling issue.

Starting July 1, 2018 all single use/non compostable cutlery and straws will be banned in Seattle. There are 27 brands of cutlery that is compostable. Not all compostable items are truly compostable. This has been presenting an issue when these items make their way into the composting facility.

We are waiting to see how the retrofitting goes with a few mills in King County that are going to be taking mixed paper.

WSRA – they are trying to come up with a list of everything that can be recycled.

Troy Lautenbach, Lautenbach Industries- In the world of C&D, wood is a big issue, there is no market for it. We are working with the Linked Up program to start developing markets for recycled wood. Cardboard still seems to be ok in the current market. Roofing is hard as the concrete companies don't use it like they should. We've really focused on the front end, we need to hit the 50% mark but very little focus has been on the markets for the recycled products. We need to develop domestic markets for our recyclables. We are trying to control the environmental impacts as well, so if we ship our garbage to a place that doesn't have environmental protections then we are kicking the can and not actually solving the problem.

Brad Lovaas, WRRRA- The Vietnam market has closed down. We are running out of containers for the material, because of the current markets, it can take 2-3 months for a container to come back. WRRRA has seen prices up to \$175 a ton to process recyclable material. Companies are collecting paper then we having to pay the mills to take it. It is getting more expensive to get the containers and to ship it to the processors. We need to listen to the MRFs and compost operators. Due to this issue Douglas County has stopped its recycling program and others are reducing what they will accept as recyclable.

We moved from 3 bins to recycle to a single bin to increase participation, reduce cost and prevent injuries. Unfortunately this is no longer working as costs continue to increase to recycle.

Rick Hlavka, Green Solutions– a study was done at one MRF and 40% of incoming material is being thrown away in order to meet the new recycling standards, about half of the 40% is contamination and half is recyclable. Pioneer Recycling is looking at getting its first optical sorter.

Jodi Snyder, Waste Connections - It's very important that compostable items are actually compostable. We have done tests and there is a significant amount of compostable marketed items that are not actually compostable. This causes a problem especially if you are marketing a 100% clean compostable product.

We should really go back and look at the goals we have set. How many of the goals are realistic and what can we achieve in our current market and with our current resources?

Janine, Ecology - We have that in our state plan, we have been unable to start the groups due to lack of staffing/resources.

Round Table

Bryan, Kitsap – Sept 17-19th, 2018 NAHMMA will be held in Tacoma, tours will include two possible boat tours with a focus on storm water pollution, a large scale storage locker, Tacoma waste management site, etc.

Last week there was a kick off meeting at DOH for the secure medication return roll out. The effective date for the rule is June 1st, 2019.

Rick Hlavka of Green Solutions – The Bellevue recycling event handled 1,400 cars in a six hour period.

Laurie, Ecology – canceled the September meeting due to the Ecology Solid Waste Conference at the end of September. Laurie will keep the 2RAC updated on any changes.

Lisa, King County –Researching existing paper mill and pulp and fiber markets. She will be looking at a WSRA event “Paper Recycling 101” in August.

Heather, Zero Waste – In WA there are 15 existing bag ordinances, and I'm currently working with 16 other counties to add them. Will be looking at state legislation this session.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30a.m

Submitted by: Nikki Candelaria